

# LITERARY EXAMINER.

**A Wife to her Husband.**  
Linger not long. Home is not home without thee;  
Its dearest tokens do but make me mourn;  
Oh! let its memory, like a chain about thee,  
Gently compel and hasten thy return.

Linger not long. Though crowds should throng thee,  
Compensate for grief thy long delaying  
Costs the fond heart that sighs to have thee  
here?

Linger not long. How I shall watch thy coming,  
As evening shadows stretch o'er moor and dell;  
When the wild bee hath ceased her busy humming,  
And silence hangs on all things like a spell!

How shall I watch thee, when frowns grow sorrowful,  
As night grows dark and darker on the hill?  
How shall I weep, when art can watch no longer!  
Ah! art thou absent, art thou absent still?

Yet I should grieve not, though the eye that  
Gazes through tears that make its splendor  
dull;  
For, oh! I sometimes fear, when thou art  
with me,  
My cup of happiness is all too full.

Haste, haste thee home, into thy mountain  
dwelling!  
Haste, as a bird unto its peaceful nest!  
Haste, as a skill, when tempests wild are  
swelling,  
Flies to its haven of secure rest!

**KNO, LAUGH, LAUGH AND HAPPINESS.**  
AN INSTRUCTIVE TALE.

"How I envy those ignorant Irish girls!" said Lucy Shannon to her father. "I wish I was one of them, and then I should not be wretched."

Lucy was the daughter of a gentleman who had lost his property through the mismanagement of others in whom he had confided. In his property, he had afforded his daughters the best means of obtaining a useful education, and a few young ladies were so accomplished, and, at the same time, so capable.

When the blow fell upon him, they braced themselves to bear it, and not fully realizing the deprivations to which they were to be subjected, they were resigned, and even cheerful. Mr. Shannon, who had passed the meridian of life, but who still retained a good portion of activity, did not despond, because he felt assured that, as there had been no loss of integrity in the loss of property, those who had been his companions in prosperity would be ready, and even anxious, to furnish him with the means of commencing business again in a safe and limited way, and in the success of economy and untiring industry, he had the fullest confidence.

His expectations, however, were fallacious. One rich man, to whom he applied for a small loan, refused, because the bankrupt could give no security but his character for probity and general intelligence. A clergyman, who was immensely rich, refused on the ground that he had placed all his pecuniary concerns in the hands of a banker, to whom, however, he did not even refer the applicant. A third, who had been his physician, and who was very wealthy, regretted that he had just engaged in erecting a block of buildings, and it required all he had and more to do, and he was himself obliged to borrow.

The fourth, thought that friends should never have any pecuniary concerns with each other, for it always destroyed friendship. Discouraged by the result of these applications, Mr. Shannon determined to starve rather than ask assistance. His daughters seeing his distress, and knowing that the day of need could not be far distant, determined to make an effort to turn their talents to advantage. The first attempt was to obtain something by writing for the magazines. The eldest wrote a tale for a Sunday School establishment, and left it to be examined as a specimen of a series to follow. The second daughter wrote a poem, and presented it for publication to the editor of a popular magazine. The third hired a neat room, and proposed to teach a small school. The fourth hoped to obtain some employment in painting maps or engravings; and the fifth intended to ply her needle in company with her mother, who though in feeble health, was determined not to be a spectator only of the industry around her.

For a few days the hope of employment encouraged the family; but sadness came over them when they were obliged to leave their comfortable and spacious dwelling and retire to a small dwelling, in which they must be subjected to much inconvenience. Their furniture was sold at auction by the Assignees, and the portion exempted by law from sale, was not sufficient to furnish even the tenement which they were obliged to occupy.

In a few days the means of purchasing the daily food for the family began to fail, the eldest daughter went to the agent of the Sunday School association, and was told that her story was well written but not sufficiently doctrinal. She then carried it to a weekly paper; and after waiting two months to have it read, she was informed that it was approved, but the proprietor had concluded not to pay for any tales, because he could get as many as he wanted, free of expense—not so well written, to be sure, but good enough for common readers.

The second daughter, after delivering her poem at the magazine office, and waiting a month or more, was informed that it had been mislaid and probably lost. The teacher at day after day, in her school room, expecting applications, but although she had sold a valuable gold ring to pay for the printing and distribution of an advertising circular, no pupils applied. The wealthiest, in the meantime became cold, and having no means to purchase a stove and fuel, she took a severe cold, and being seriously sick, required all the care of her mother, during the day, and of her sisters, by turn at night. No employment in painting could be procured by the fourth daughter for many weeks; but at last a considerable job was engaged at a very low price. As the hope of the family seemed to rest upon this, the sisters all took hold, and the work was done very promptly and very well. The employer was well satisfied, but he did not pay them, and because they called too soon, as he thought, for payment he concluded not to employ such troublesome persons any more. Not finding employment from others, the youngest parted with some valuable books, at a sacrifice, and purchased some cloth, which she made up in the hopes of finding a purchaser for ready made articles; but she was obliged to sell the articles at less than the cost of the materials, to get some medicine for her sick and suffering sister.

Unable to get a small loan from any of his former friends, in recompense business, Mr. Shannon endeavored to obtain employment as a book keeper or clerk; but his friends could not bear to employ one who had straggled employed them in other times, and strangers preferred a younger man. It was on his return home, after a vain application for a subordinate situation in a bank, that Lucy uttered the ejaculation with which this tale commences. "If I had never known what it was to be well off, I should be contented," said she; "and if I were ignorant, a thousand avenues of pain would be closed. All I wish is, that I was dead!"

"I could bear the loss of property without a sigh," said her father, "but when I see those I love so unhappy, I am distressed; but I am still unwilling to believe that education really and necessarily increases our misery, and our inability

to obtain the means of a comfortable subsistence."

"If we were ignorant drudges, we could find employment," said the youngest daughter; "there is a demand for servants, but we must starve."

"Why may we not become servants then?" said the second daughter; "surely it will do no harm to carry a little science into the kitchen."

"You have not the necessary strength," said the mother; "and it is ten to one if any body would employ you."

"I am determined to try it," said Anna, "for if I can get a situation, I shall be able to make Lucy more comfortable, at least. Lucy, dear, don't cry so; it will not hurt me in my own estimation, to become a domestic, and I have grown too desperate to care what others may think of it."

Anna's resolution seemed to put courage into her sisters; and after some discussion, the whole four determined, the next day, to make the experiment of going out to service. Mr. Shannon opposed the plan until he found it useless to do so, and he was obliged to consent to have the family scattered for a season, in the hope of a future reunion.

"I shall apply directly to our minister's wife," said Lucy, "for I know she wants an American girl."

"She will know you, my dear," said Mrs. Shannon.

"I trust she will," said Lucy. "I do not mean to go as if I was ashamed."

"I shall go to some hotel, if I can," said Anna, "for they give higher wages than private families pay."

"You will be too much exposed there," said the anxious mother. "I pray you not to risk such exposure."

"Never fear me, mother," said Anna; "I shall think of you when I am in danger, and then I shall surely wear a charm against mischief."

"I," said Josephine, the second daughter, "I will turn nurse maid, and take care of somebody's children, but I shall be afraid to teach them anything, lest they should become as helpless and unhappy as we are."

"I will take any thing I can get, if it is not a school," said Jane, the fourth daughter, "for it is best for servants not to be too particular."

After arranging their plans, and concluding to call at home next evening, the sisters kissed the feeble Lucy, and retired in better spirits than usual to their small and ill-furnished rooms. Early the next forenoon, the sisters plainly dressed, set out on their missions.

"God bless you my children," said the distressed father, as they left the door; he followed them with his eyes until a turn in the street concealed them, and then gave free course to his tears.

The excitement thus produced by the departure of her children would have overcome the mother, whose frame was naturally feeble, had not the same cause increased the illness of Lucy, and obliged the parent to forget himself in the anxiety for the suffering and afflicted child. Left in some degree alone, the full weight of his distress came upon the affectionate father. At first he was disposed to lay violent hands upon himself, not indeed, because he was unwilling to labor, or to submit to any humiliation for the sake of his family, but because he seemed to be in their way, and perhaps, if by his removal, he rendered them more completely helpless, the hearts of the most worldly would be touched and some relief obtained.

"Can it be," thought he, "that a good education unfits us to obtain a livelihood—or has a mistake been committed, so that, while the intellect has been trained, some other quality as important has been neglected?" His excellent wife, he knew, had instructed the children in all the essentials of good housewifery; but they were rather calculated to preside over a household than to do the labor to which the domestic must submit. At this dark moment, the voice of Lucy reached his ear from the next room. The poor sick child had undertaken to comfort her mother, and was just calling to her recollection the words of our Saviour, when, to encourage his followers to unwavering trust in Providence, he assured them that the little sparrow fell not unobserved, and the meanest human being was of more value than many sparrows.

The current of thought in the mind of the unfortunate father was diverted from the fatal channel into which it seemed inclined to run and resolving not to be overcome by his children, he hastily arose and went forth, determined to find something to do, however degrading it might appear to the world.

The absence of Mr. Shannon, not at dinner, for they had none, but the dinner hour, filled his affectionate wife with apprehensions, for she knew his strength of feeling, and had feared much from the gloom which was settling over his mind—her anxiety, however, was relieved when he returned, soon after dark, apparently more cheerful than when he left her in the morning.

He had hardly kissed Lucy and removed his outer coat, when Lucy entered; and it was not many minutes before all the other children were seated around Lucy's bed, evidently more delighted than when they had not been separated. Each was telling another of the adventures of the day, when Lucy suggested that each should relate about what happened, and then she could hear them all, and once telling would suffice.

"Come, Lucy," said Mr. Shannon, "let us hear your story first, for you are the oldest. What success had you at the parson's?"

"I rang the bell, and was admitted, as usual," said Lucy. "When Mrs. Parnell appeared, I asked her if it was true that she wished to hire a domestic. She answered affirmatively, and I asked what work would be expected."

"Every thing," said she; "but washing; I have a girl who can do that, but she can do nothing else."

"What wages do you propose to give me?" said Lucy. "I would give two dollars to a good American girl," she said; "but why do you ask the question? Do you know of any good girl?"

"I do," said Lucy, "I am authorized to engage the place for one." "Who is she?" "The daughter of a gentleman who has been suddenly reduced to poverty."

Daughters of gentlemen make poor servants," said she; "but if you know her and will answer for her character, I will try her, for I have become desperate." "I think so well of her," said Lucy, "that rather than she should lose her place, I will do her work for a few days, till she can come and take the place; you know I can be well spared from home now."

"Do you mean what you say?" said Mrs. Parnell. "I do," said Lucy, "I should like a little active exercise." "I shall take it as a great favor," said she, "though I should be afraid to impose duties upon you as you seem willing to impose upon yourself." I took my things without further ceremony, went over the house with Mrs. Parnell, and soon found my self at work.

Every thing was in confusion, for you know Mrs. P. is no housewife; but, with the aid of the other girls, I wrought such a change before sunset, that when I was preparing to come home, Mrs. P. said, "Oh, if I could get a girl who knew how to work as well as you do—one that had some system in her labor, I would give her any wages."

I told her, that if she liked my work, I should have no objection to living with her, for I must earn a living in some way. So the amount of it is, that I have engaged to return at two dollars a week, with the privilege of sitting in the parlor when I preferred to do so. Thus you see, father, our rent is provided for."

"Did Mr. P. treat you kindly?" asked Mr. Shannon. "Quite so," said Lucy; "and just before I left, an occurrence took place which brought me at once into favor, and seems to prove that a decent education, after all, is of no disadvantage to a servant. Mr. P. is to deliver a lecture before

the Lyceum this evening, and desiring to know the true reading of some lines that he wished to quote, he asked his wife if she recollectes them."

She did not, and I very humbly suggested where they might be found in Spenser. He brought the volume, and soon found them in it. He then invited me into his study, and told me to use his library as if it were my own. So you see father, if he had no heart for your wants, he had a head which may be made subservient to mine."

Josephine, let us hear how you succeeded."

"I went with Jane to the Intelligence office," said Josephine, "and we could hardly make the keeper believe that we wanted places as domestics. When he was satisfied that we were in earnest, he gave us chairs, and treated us more civilly than he had a dozen others who were waiting for places, and sitting in a row on a long bench."

Presently a lady came in, and after a few words with the keeper, I was called in, and introduced to her as a young woman wanting a place. "Where do you live last?" said she in quite a business way. "At home, madam, said I. 'At home, have you never lived out?' 'No, madam.' 'So much the better, you are not so full of mischief, then. 'What work do you expect to do?' Can you cook? Can you wash, and iron?' 'I know how to perform all these operations, said I, but I shall need some practice before I shall become expert.' 'Expert,' said she, expert, where did you get that word? What education have you had?"

"A good one, madam, I trust." "Then what are you going to live out for? Learned servants are apt to be good for nothing; the dictionary and the wash-tub assort like oil and water, it is said." "They shall not antagonize," said I, "if you will try me." "What wages do you expect?" "What I may deserve," said I, humbly. "I hope to make myself so useful as to deserve the highest wages, but I am willing for you to try me at the lowest."

In short she agreed to try me a week at a dollar, and I went home to her. She proved to be the wife of a master builder, who, when I entered, was studying a long account at a desk in one corner of the room. "Wife," said he, as we entered, "I have wasted two days upon this account, and cannot reconcile it. I would give half I am worth to know a little book-keeping. I am satisfied that there is an error of at least fifty dollars against me, but I cannot see where it is. I wish that girl was a clerk instead of a cook."

"Perhaps, said I, 'I can be of service to you in both capacities. May I look at the account?' 'Look at it, yes,' said he, 'and if you find where the error is, I'll give you a five dollar bill and a new gown into the bargain.'"

The items of the account were numerous, for it related to building operations of some magnitude. I examined the debt and credit, but it seemed fair except certain balances, and a few questions soon satisfied me that one credit had been repeated in them. The error was soon made evident, and the man, to my surprise, took out the reward, and insisted upon my receiving it. He then questioned me about my education, and finally agreed to employ me to keep his accounts. Another girl is to be hired to do the cooking and washing, and I am to be paid two dollars a week for book keeping and maid of all the easy work. So that book keeping, which I thought useless at school, is to be the making of me for aught I see. But here, mother, is the five dollar bill, the voucher of my account—Now Jane, tell us your story."

"I was waiting for a call," said Jane, "some time after Josephine left, for though several ladies came and several of the girls in waiting went off with them, the keeper did not call me. At last, when a well-dressed lady came, he beckoned to me, and introduced me in terms which were very kind, and which indicated as I thought some acquaintance with my family. The lady was in want of a sort of governess for her children, and he recommended me, because I had been so well educated and so well brought up myself, that I knew how to manage children."

"You must give her your name," said he, "and if she disapproves you, I will be accountable." "You hear what he says, Miss; do you authorize him to say so?" "I know not what authority he speaks," said I—but I hope he does not overrate my intention, if he does my ability." I have no personal acquaintance with the young lady, said the keeper, "but my little daughter was here just now, and told me that she was once her Sabbath school teacher, and she loved her dearly. The young lady's manners, and those of her sister, who is just gone out," said he, "taught me the rest."

"The amount of it is, that I am engaged as governess to three children, and a sort of companion to the mother, who is a widow. The terms were to be two dollars a week, but when she discovered that I could play and sing well enough to teach such children, she voluntarily offered to give me extra pay for this accomplishment. I shall in this way be able to keep alive what knowledge I have and was likely to lose when we had to part with our piano. O, dear, what a lucky thing it is that I used to be monitor sometimes at school!"

"Come, Anna, said Mrs. Shannon, it is your turn now. I went directly to the great hotel, said Anna, "and saw the landlord. When I asked him if he had occasion for another domestic, he said, 'Yes, but he wanted a wife or a housekeeper, to look after his domestics.' 'I have them, several, said I, and I am desperate. Have you ever lived out?' said he. 'Never, sir.' 'Have you ever kept house?' 'Never.' 'What sort of a situation do you expect then?' 'I care not, said I, 'so long as I can fill honorably.' 'Who are you?' 'The daughter of a gentleman, who has been faithful to his children, if not successful in business.' 'Could you head the table at the Ladies' Ordinary, do you think?' 'I have been accustomed to good society, and have a mother capable of advising and directing me in all difficult cases.' 'I want a lady,' said he, 'of good manners and education, one capable of directing servants, and old enough to command respect. You seem to have all the qualifications, but how long will you acquire that?' 'It will come in time, without much effort on my part. How old do you wish me to be?' 'Twenty-five at least.' 'I will try to be twenty-five, then I shall soon be that, if I am pleasantly employed.' 'Come,' said he, laughingly, 'the bell will ring for dinner in a few minutes; you may go with me and inspect the tables, and if you please, you may give me a specimen of your quality at the head of them.' 'I followed him to the dining hall, and by good luck, suggested some improvements in the arrangement of the dishes. The landlord then led me to the housekeeper's seat at the table, where you may be assured I presided with becoming grace, for I am duly installed in office, at a salary of three hundred dollars for the first year."

"Providence has certainly been kind to us," said Mr. Shannon. "The dark night has brought out stars, and mine is not the least brilliant among them. When I left the house this forenoon, I was a desperate man, goaded to despair by the destitution of my family, and indignant at the indifference with which the world looked on. I determined to imitate your examples, my girls, and engage in any employment that offered, however mean. As I passed a fruit store, a thought struck me, which I immediately reduced to action. I entered, and told the fruit dealer that I wished to try an experiment, and if he would trust me with a basket of oranges, I would sell them for him. My respectable appearance, probably led him to think I was about education, after all, is of no disadvantage to a servant. Mr. P. is to deliver a lecture before

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The items of the account were numerous, for it related to building operations of some magnitude. I examined the debt and credit, but it seemed fair except certain balances, and a few questions soon satisfied me that one credit had been repeated in them. The error was soon made evident, and the man, to my surprise, took out the reward, and insisted upon my receiving it. He then questioned me about my education, and finally agreed to employ me to keep his accounts. Another girl is to be hired to do the cooking and washing, and I am to be paid two dollars a week for book keeping and maid of all the easy work. So that book keeping, which I thought useless at school, is to be the making of me for aught I see. But here, mother, is the five dollar bill, the voucher of my account—Now Jane, tell us your story."

"I was waiting for a call," said Jane, "some time after Josephine left, for though several ladies came and several of the girls in waiting went off with them, the keeper did not call me. At last, when a well-dressed lady came, he beckoned to me, and introduced me in terms which were very kind, and which indicated as I thought some acquaintance with my family. The lady was in want of a sort of governess for her children, and he recommended me, because I had been so well educated and so well brought up myself, that I knew how to manage children."

"You must give her your name," said he, "and if she disapproves you, I will be accountable." "You hear what he says, Miss; do you authorize him to say so?" "I know not what authority he speaks," said I—but I hope he does not overrate my intention, if he does my ability." I have no personal acquaintance with the young lady, said the keeper, "but my little daughter was here just now, and told me that she was once her Sabbath school teacher, and she loved her dearly. The young lady's manners, and those of her sister, who is just gone out," said he, "taught me the rest."

"The amount of it is, that I am engaged as governess to three children, and a sort of companion to the mother, who is a widow. The terms were to be two dollars a week, but when she discovered that I could play and sing well enough to teach such children, she voluntarily offered to give me extra pay for this accomplishment. I shall in this way be able to keep alive what knowledge I have and was likely to lose when we had to part with our piano. O, dear, what a lucky thing it is that I used to be monitor sometimes at school!"

"Come, Anna, said Mrs. Shannon, it is your turn now. I went directly to the great hotel, said Anna, "and saw the landlord. When I asked him if he had occasion for another domestic, he said, 'Yes, but he wanted a wife or a housekeeper, to look after his domestics.' 'I have them, several, said I, and I am desperate. Have you ever lived out?' said he. 'Never, sir.' 'Have you ever kept house?' 'Never.' 'What sort of a situation do you expect then?' 'I care not, said I, 'so long as I can fill honorably.' 'Who are you?' 'The daughter of a gentleman, who has been faithful to his children, if not successful in business.' 'Could you head the table at the Ladies' Ordinary, do you think?' 'I have been accustomed to good society, and have a mother capable of advising and directing me in all difficult cases.' 'I want a lady,' said he, 'of good manners and education, one capable of directing servants, and old enough to command respect. You seem to have all the qualifications, but how long will you acquire that?' 'It will come in time, without much effort on my part. How old do you wish me to be?' 'Twenty-five at least.' 'I will try to be twenty-five, then I shall soon be that, if I am pleasantly employed.' 'Come,' said he, laughingly, 'the bell will ring for dinner in a few minutes; you may go with me and inspect the tables, and if you please, you may give me a specimen of your quality at the head of them.' 'I followed him to the dining hall, and by good luck, suggested some improvements in the arrangement of the dishes. The landlord then led me to the housekeeper's seat at the table, where you may be assured I presided with becoming grace, for I am duly installed in office, at a salary of three hundred dollars for the first year."

"Providence has certainly been kind to us," said Mr. Shannon. "The dark night has brought out stars, and mine is not the least brilliant among them. When I left the house this forenoon, I was a desperate man, goaded to despair by the destitution of my family, and indignant at the indifference with which the world looked on. I determined to imitate your examples, my girls, and engage in any employment that offered, however mean. As I passed a fruit store, a thought struck me, which I immediately reduced to action. I entered, and told the fruit dealer that I wished to try an experiment, and if he would trust me with a basket of oranges, I would sell them for him. My respectable appearance, probably led him to think I was about education, after all, is of no disadvantage to a servant. Mr. P. is to deliver a lecture before

the Lyceum this evening, and desiring to know the true reading of some lines that he wished to quote, he asked his wife if she recollectes them."

She did not, and I very humbly suggested where they might be found in Spenser. He brought the volume, and soon found them in it. He then invited me into his study, and told me to use his library as if it were my own. So you see father, if he had no heart for your wants, he had a head which may be made subservient to mine."

Josephine, let us hear how you succeeded."

"I went with Jane to the Intelligence office," said Josephine, "and we could hardly make the keeper believe that we wanted places as domestics. When he was satisfied that we were in earnest, he gave us chairs, and treated us more civilly than he had a dozen others who were waiting for places, and sitting in a row on a long bench."

Presently a lady came in, and after a few words with the keeper, I was called in, and introduced to her as a young woman wanting a place. "Where do you live last?" said she in quite a business way. "At home, madam,